Meadow Lane, north side on Belcher Brook

(south side is a pond)

Blair Manufacturing

1935 Susqui-Centennial Celebration of the Town of Berlin – Berlin Old Houses.

About 1800 Blair Factory

First patented cook stove in USA made here. Cotton, woolen yarn, silk and cotton thread, farm and tinners tools.

Catherine North: History of Berlin, page 245

In 1850 Charles Blair came to Berlin from Collinsville and established a business for the manufacture of steel rakes, plantation hoes, axes, chisels and carpenters' draw shaves. His name which has been used by anticipation, was at the time firt given to this north pond and factory by Belcher Brook. The property was deeded on October 14, 1850 by Elishama Brandegee to a joint stock company, incorporated under the name of Blair Manufacturing Company. The capital stick, mostly subscribed by the business men f Berlin, was $20,000, which seemed unlimited in those days. $15,625 were paid in.

Continues

One evening in the fall of 1885, Mr. Deming who then lived in the house now occupied as a arsonage, looked out from his window and saw a great light in the south. He mounted his horse and galloped away to see where the fire was. Yes, it was the Blair factory, all in flames, and not a cent of insurance.